

## Harpswell Energy Committee

February 8, 2010 Meeting Minutes - Approved March 8, 2010

Approved March Chairman David I. Chipman called the meeting to order at 4:05p.m. at the Harpswell Town Office. Committee members Debora “Deb” Levensailor and John Monaghan, Jr. were also present.

**January 11, 2010 Meeting Minutes** - On a Chipman/Monaghan motion, the January 11, 2010 minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Dave said Harpswell Town Administrator Kristi Eiane told him the members of the Board of Selectmen have agreed to allow the committee to post energy related information on the town’s Web site along with links to beneficial energy Web sites.

The committee continued working on a policy regarding public street lighting in Harpswell. Dave said he is in the process of developing written criteria for the committee to discuss, and that he talked to the following people since the last meeting:

- Harpswell Codes Enforcement Officer Bill Wells said the light on the exterior of the town office near the side door leading to the lobby outside the meeting room is wired to the flood light on the back of town office. Bill has already replaced the old bulbs with florescent ones, but Dave would like to see a smaller bulb in the light by the back door and a single light with a motion detector on the corner by the side door. He will research the issue further and report back to the committee.

- Bath Public Works Deputy Director Lee Leiner indicated that the Bath Regional Career and Technical Center students have been checking locations of street lights in Bath, but have not developed criteria for removing any of them yet. He suggested Harpswell keep the lights near sharp curves in place, and would like a copy of the criteria the committee recommends to the Selectmen.

- Marty at the workforce housing development at Hamilton Place in Harpswell said houses built there will be energy efficient, and he will find out whether or not they are Leadership In Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified, and contact Dave at a later time.

Dave plans to speak to Peter Arnold at Chewonki in Wiscasset about the tidal power, sustainable and other alternative energy studies they’re conducting. He said several Harpswell young people attend the Chewonki regularly and gain team building and wilderness experience.

Deb shared an article from “The Coastal Journal”, dated February 4, 2010, regarding the Beta Turbine-Generator Unit (TGU), an all-composite 48 foot long water turbine unveiled at US Windblade in Bath. The committee talked about the benefits of having a similar tidal power turbine installed in Harpswell waters in the future, with particular

attention given to protecting and conserving valuable fishing areas. Gurnet Strait at the Gurnet Bridge leading to Great Island, Basin Cove, Mitchell Field, Ewing Narrows, and an area near the bridge by the town office were identified as possible appropriate sites having adequate volume and strong tides. Electricity generated by such a turbine would likely power the recycling center, town office, and TV station as well as other buildings. Perhaps the town could obtain a grant to finance the project.

John talked about the type of insulation he feels is best to use in houses, a new carpet program designed by Efficiency Maine, the new CMP smart boards, and said the committee should receive word soon about the status of the Coastal Coalition's energy grant application.

**NEXT MEETING - MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010 at 4p.m.**

On a Chipman/Levensailor motion, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting. Dave adjourned the meeting at 5:05p.m.

Submitted by,

Debora A. Levensailor, Harpswell Energy Committee Vice-Chairwoman